GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3688
ANSWERED ON:07.04.2003
POLICY ON GM CROP AND FOOD
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to redraft the policy on GM Crop and Food;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the GM Crop and Food policy adopted earlier was in effective to deal with thevarious problems faced by the Government; and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (d): The release of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) into the Environment isgoverned by the `Rules for manufacture, use, import, export and storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells`.The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) has been constituted for approval of activities involving largescale use of hazardous microorganisms and recombinants in research and industrial production as well as approval of proposals relating to release of Genetically Engineered Organisms and products in to the environment including experimental field trials. With a view to synergise various efforts and activities of the relevant Ministries/Departments and maintain effective coordination and implementation of the existing policy, an Inter-Ministerial Meeting on G.M.Crop/Food Policy was held in the Ministry of Environment and Forests on 26th February,2003, inwhich it was decided to constitute a smaller working group with representatives from the relevant Ministries/Departments to address these issues.